

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a filter catalyst, the process comprising:

preparing a coating slurry in which an inorganic oxide powder is dispersed, and coating the coating slurry onto a catalyst-support substrate composed of a porous material having a plurality of cells extending in an axial direction; the catalyst-support substrate having first and second opposite ends in the axial direction, a first set of the cells having sealed first ends, and a second set of the cells which alternate with the first set having sealed second ends;

removing excess coating slurry from the coated catalyst-support substrate; and drying-calcining the coating slurry;

wherein the removing of the excess coating slurry is carried out by performing the following steps repeatedly until a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 1 μm to 20 μm is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μm to 70 μm is 27.11% to 28.03%:

holding one of axial maintaining a pressure difference between the first and second opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate, the pressure difference having a higher pressure at the first end during a first repetition and a higher pressure at the second end during a second repetition; and substrate and an other of the axial opposite ends thereof in such a state that a pressure difference is given therebetween; and

holding the one of the axial maintaining an identical pressure at the first and second opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate.

~~substrate and the other of the axial opposite ends thereof in an identical pressure state, each of the axial opposite ends defining at least two openings, the at least two openings being alternately sealed with a sealing material,~~

~~wherein a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 1 μm to 20 μm is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μm to 70 μm is 27.11% to 28.03%.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 1, wherein the pressure difference given between ~~both the axial first and second~~ opposite ends of said catalyst-support substrate is 1 KPa or ~~more, more in the step of holding both the axial opposite ends of the catalyst support substrate in such a state that a pressure difference is given therebetween.~~

3. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 1, wherein said inorganic oxide powder dispersed in said coating slurry is such that a 70% particle-diameter value (D70) of a particle-diameter cumulative distribution is 1 μm or less.

4. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a filter catalyst, the process comprising:

preparing a coating slurry in which an inorganic oxide powder is dispersed, and coating the coating slurry onto a catalyst-support substrate composed of a porous material having a plurality of cells extending in an axial ~~direction; direction, the catalyst-support substrate having first and second opposite ends in the axial direction, a first set of the cells having sealed first ends, and a second set of the cells which alternate with the first set having sealed second ends;~~

removing excess coating slurry from the coated catalyst-support substrate; and drying-calcining the coating slurry;

wherein the removing of the excess coating slurry is carried out by performing the following steps ~~repeatedly:repeatedly until a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore~~

diameters between 1 μm to 20 μm is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μm to 70 μm is 27.11% to 28.03%:

holding one of axialmaintaining a first pressure difference between the first and second opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate ~~to which a first pressure is given and an other of the axial opposite ends thereof to which a higher pressure than the first pressure is given such that a pressure difference is given therebetween; such that a higher pressure is provided at the first end;~~

holding the one of the axialmaintaining an identical pressure at the first and second opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate ~~and the other axial opposite ends thereof in an identical pressure state; and substrate; and~~

holding the one of the axialmaintaining a second pressure difference between the first and second opposite ends of the catalyst-support substrate ~~such that a higher pressure is provided at the second end to which a second pressure is given and the other axial opposite end thereof to which a lower pressure than the second pressure is given such that a pressure difference is given therebetween,~~

~~wherein a porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 1 μm to 20 μm is 12.53% to 13.29% and the porosity of the filter catalyst with pore diameters between 20 μm to 70 μm is 27.11% to 28.03%.~~

5. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the pressure difference is carried out by applying atmospheric pressure at the first end and by applying a pressure lower than atmospheric pressure at the second end and vice versa on the first and second repetitions, respectively.

6. (New) The process of claim 4, wherein the maintaining the first pressure difference includes applying atmospheric pressure to one of the first and second ends, and

maintaining the second pressure difference includes applying atmospheric pressure to the other of the first and second ends.